

**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
Severe Weather and Floods
FEMA-DR-1655-VA)
FEMA/VDEM Joint Field Office**

**STATE SITUATION REPORT # 17
1400 Hours 24 July 2006**

(New Information in Bold Italics)

Next Situation Report will be distributed on Wednesday 26 July 2006, from the Joint Field Office.

SUMMARY

The combination of tropical moisture steered northward around a low pressure system near Florida and a stationary frontal boundary across the Mid-Atlantic and New England States led to substantial rainfall and flooding across portions of the Commonwealth beginning 23 June 2006. Successive severe weather systems have continued to impact the Commonwealth.

EXECUTIVE ACTION

JFO Activation:

The Virginia Emergency Operations Center remains at Recovery Operations as activity continues from the Joint Field Office (JFO) located at 4800 Cox Road, Glen Allen, VA. ***The JFO is assisting local jurisdictions in their recovery efforts.***

Regular JFO FEMA/VDEM staff meetings will be conducted at the JFO on Tu-Th of each week at 0900 hours in the JFO Conference Room. Regular VDEM staff meetings will be conducted on M-W-F of each week at 0800 hours in the JFO Conference Room.

**State of Emergency and
Executive Order:**

Through an Executive Order, Governor Timothy M. Kaine declared a Statewide Emergency on 28 June 2006. Governor Kaine requested a Presidential Disaster Declaration for Individual Assistance, Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation on 30 June for the counties of Alleghany, Arlington, Augusta, Bath, Botetourt, Dickenson, Fairfax, Highland, King George, Montgomery and Rockbridge and the independent cities of Alexandria and Salem.

President Bush declared a Major Disaster for the Commonwealth of Virginia on 13 July 2006. The City of Alexandria, the Counties of Alleghany, Arlington, Bath, Dickenson, Fairfax, Highland, King George and Rockbridge were designated to receive Public Assistance along with State, Local Governments and certain private nonprofit organizations. All jurisdictions in the Commonwealth are eligible to apply for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The request for Individual Assistance is pending further review. On 20 July 2006 Governor Kaine requested the addition of Botetourt, Craig, Floyd, and Henry Counties to the Public Assistance Disaster Declaration.

WEATHER

Forecast:

Three-day forecast (M-Tu-W) (24-26 July 2006): Mostly sunny (cloudy on Tu) with highs in the upper 80s with nightly lows in the upper 60s and low 70s Possible scattered thunderstorms Monday night. Chance of rain 30 to 40% during the day and evening.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SECTION (ESF-15)

Legislative Liaison:

Established Initial contact with 44 legislators who represent the nine declared jurisdictions for Public Assistance (PA) advising them of JFO location/operation and that VDEM POC is Mr. Art Warren (art.warren@vdem.virginia.gov). Also, established initial contact with Virginia Congressional Liaison, Mr. Alphonzo Lopez, apprising him with initial situation and ongoing operations. ***Emails were sent to all state respective senators and delegates (44 total) to inform them of the two Public Assistance Program applicant briefings scheduled for Tuesday in Richmond and Wednesday in Northern Virginia. All have been asked to contact the JFO-Legislative Liaison if they have questions.***

Public Information Office (PIO): Distributed media advisory to alert media of the news desk telephone number. Met with VDEM Mitigation staff to discuss flood insurance promotions plans. Drafted a ***specific*** news release for add-ons (TBP). ***Distributed a general information Public Assistance news release to media and posted it to VDEM website.***

Community Relations (CR): ***CR Teams completed their meetings with local emergency managers of declared jurisdictions on Saturday. Received good feedback from all; no substantial additional damage was identified.***

OPERATIONS SECTION

RESPONSE AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS BRANCH

ESF 1 – Transportation:

Virginia Department of Transportation: As of 1000 hours 24 July, VDOT reported no primary roads and 3 secondary roads closed.

ESF 14 – Long-term Community Recovery:

Initial Damage Assessment Reports:

<i>Locality (37 each)</i>	<i>Private (18 each)</i>	<i>Public* (34 each)</i>
Total	\$17,002,050	\$16,661,498

*Includes VDOT estimates and damages to state-owned facilities.

State Public Assistance (PA) Briefings:

An Applicants' Briefing for the State Agencies is scheduled for 1330 hours on Tuesday, 25 July 2006 at Room 219 at the State Police Academy, 7700 Midlothian Turnpike, Richmond, VA.

An Applicants' Briefing for Northern Virginia is scheduled for 1000 hours on Wednesday, 26 July 2006 at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 151C, Fairfax, VA.

Individual Assistance:

In support of a potential IA declaration, FEMA and VDEM representatives visited Alexandria and Arlington and revisited the Huntington area in Fairfax on Saturday, 22 July 2006. Additional damage info will be forwarded to FEMA HQ today. Anticipate decision on IA declaration by end of week.

Mitigation:

Mitigation guidelines and strategy for this disaster are being established in coordination with FEMA and Dept of Conservation and Recreation Floodplain Management Program with a final draft for FCO/SCO review upon completion.

Developing administrative plan for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for review by FEMA and VDEM planning staff.

Coordinating with VDEM External Affairs (EA) regarding a media campaign for flood insurance awareness. VDEM currently has an ongoing Hurricane Awareness Campaign. Anticipate VDEM/FEMA Mitigation staffs will provide input into this FEMA EA campaign effort.

PLANNING SECTION

ESF 5 – Emergency Management:

Planning staff will provide VDEM JFO Situation Reports M-W-F this week. Continue to assist FEMA Planning Section in coordination for Hurricane Response Plan training. Processed several FEMA requests for GIS graphic support assistance through VDEM GIS officer.

ESF 7 – Resource Management:

A staffing plan for other VDEM staff members to participate within the VDEM JFO Planning Section is being developed in coordination with the VDEM Planning Division Chief at Trade Court and the VDEM JFO Operations Section Chief.

FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION SECTION

Personnel Unit:

Current VDEM JFO staffing is 23.

Administration Unit:

A daily courier service began Monday, 24 July 2006 with a 1000 hours pickup at Trade Court and a 1030 hours pickup at EOC, with approximate 1130 hours arrival at JFO (at the DSCO Admin Office). In the afternoon, the courier will then leave the JFO at 1330 hours for deliveries to the EOC at 1430 hours, ending at 1500 hours at Trade Court.

Finance Unit:

All VDEM personnel working at the JFO received a policy and guidance briefing on a number of topics regarding pay/travel/rental autos, etc. from VDEM Finance Director, Linda Coleman, and members of her staff at 21 July VDEM-JFO staff meeting.

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